

ACCEPTANCE/ REJECTION BOOK CLUB MEETING ACTIVITIES LIST

At each book club meeting, there will be a group leader. The group leader selects ideas from this list for all members of the group to complete independently BEFORE the book club meeting date. Remember that a book club discussion should be at least 20 minutes of active discussion of the text, so the leader may want to choose a couple of ideas from this list each time. It is each person's individual responsibility to prepare for discussion by gathering materials and evidence to share at the meeting. All group members must show written evidence of preparation in the form of notes or post-it notes. This is part of your book club meeting grade. Once all ideas have been used, the group can start repeating activities used at previous book club meetings.

Description of the Activity	Date of Meeting Used
1. Attach post-it notes to a few passages you think are meaningful or important. On the post-it note write down a response to this passage.	
2. Compare and contrast two characters from the novel. Make sure to include similarities and differences in multiple areas, and think about the role each character plays in the story.	
3. Write a 20 word GIST of the section read. A GIST is just a summary of the important ideas presented in a piece of text. The catch is it has to be exactly 20 words. Share your GISTS as a group, and discuss if you all picked out the same important details.	
4. Bring in an object that you believe symbolizes each of the main characters. Be able to explain to the group how you feel each object accurately represents the selected character.	
5. Imagine you are planning a dinner party for all of the characters in the book. Where would it be? When would it be? What activities would you include? What would you serve? What special precautions would you need to take in order for the party to be successful? Be able to defend all of your choices with specific details from the text.	
6. Locate a song that you believe accurately symbolizes the events, characters, and/or theme in your book. Bring in a copy of the lyrics and share with the group why you think this song is a good representation of what you are reading.	
7. Identify places in the text where the author uses descriptive or figurative language. Use post-it notes to mark the text. On the post-it note, explain how the author's use of language impacts the story or reader. Can you identify the specific technique being used?	
8. Locate a poem that you believe accurately symbolizes the events, characters, and/or theme in your book. Bring in a copy of the poem and share with the group why you think this connects to what you are reading.	
9. Gather some information on the author, historical time period, public opinion, or events mentioned in your book. Print out, or take notes on your research, and share it with the group. Discuss how this new information impacts your thinking in relationship to what you are reading.	

10. Gather some outside quotes from websites or through a print source that you think relate to your book. Bring the quotes to the group, and explain how each one you selected could represent the characters, events, or them of your text.	
11. Imagine that you are going to adapt this story to a modern day movie. What aspects of the book would you change, and why? Who would you choose to play the main characters, and why? Would changing the time period and/ or setting change the message of the story? Explain.	
12. Make a list of all the characters and write accepted or rejected next to each character's name. Include evidence from the text to support your decision. If you believe the character is rejected in the book, think about how this character is handling the rejection. Share and discuss lists in the group to see if all members agree.	
13. Think about which character in the book you feel is most like you. Put some post-it notes by passages in the text where this character acts, thinks, or feels similar to you. Be able to explain your connection to your group.	
14. Rate all the characters in the book on a scale of 1-10 for kindness. 1 is absolutely mean and horrible, and 10 is ultimate kindness. Compare and discuss your ratings in the group to see if you all agree.	
15. Write a statement for each of the following unit vocabulary words that relates to your text: resilient, disparity, catalyst, precept, and reconcile.	
16. Imagine that you are a blogger for an online advice forum. Choose one character from your book and think about the kind of advice this character might wish to seek. Write down the specific advice you would post on your blog for this character related to actions and events taking place in the story.	
17. Choose 4-5 symbols to represent the theme (or message) of this section of the book, what would you choose and why?	
18. Prepare thick questions on slips of paper to discuss with your group. At your book club meeting, take turns drawing the questions from a pile and discussing your thoughts.	
19. Play Pictionary using important symbols from the book and discuss each symbol as your group members guess what you are trying to draw.	
20. Choose your own creative way to discuss the book. All you have to do is tell your teacher about your idea or activity, and make sure to prepare for it in advance.	